

products provide an appropriate degree of protection for their information.

In order to help consumers choose commercial off-the-shelf IT products, NIST and NSA are developing a program to evaluate conformance of IT products to international standards. This program has the following objectives:

- To develop, operate, and maintain a Common Criteria Evaluation and Validation Scheme;
- To provide for security evaluations in private sector laboratories;
- To ensure that evaluations of IT products are performed to consistent standards and to increase confidence in the security of those products;
- To improve the availability of evaluated IT products;
- To create a climate for IT security products of "Make them here, test them here, sell them world-wide".

The proposed scheme will promote evaluations of IT products conducted in the private sector by accredited testing laboratories. Products will be evaluated against the Common Criteria for Information Technology Security Evaluation, an emerging International Standards Organization (ISO) standard. Evaluation results will be validated by NIAP leading to the issuance of a validation certificate and placement on a validated products list. Certificates for the validated products will be recognized by participants in mutual recognition agreements based on the Common Criteria, thus reducing the need for multiple security evaluations.

This workshop is for the following audiences:

- Manufacturers, developers, and integrators of IT products interested in having their products evaluated against the Common Criteria;
- Testing laboratories interested in evaluating IT products to the Common Criteria;
- Government and private sector consumers desiring IT products evaluated against the Common Criteria and validated by NIAP.

The workshop will cover a variety of topics to include:

- Introduction to IT product security evaluation;
- Overview of the Common Criteria Scheme;
- Status report on the Common Criteria and Common Evaluation Methodology;
- Laboratory accreditation;
- Validation of evaluation results by NIAP.

Dated: August 6, 1998.

Robert E. Hebner,

Acting Deputy Director.

[FR Doc. 98-21630 Filed 8-11-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-CN-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 080498F]

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; Public Meetings

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will convene a public meeting of its Ad Hoc Finfish Stock Assessment Panel (Panel).

DATES: The meeting of the Panel will be held beginning at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 1998 and will conclude by 12:00 noon on Thursday, August 27, 1998.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, 703 East Beach Drive, Ocean Springs, MS.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Steven Atran, Population Dynamics Statistician, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, 3018 U.S. Highway 301 North, Suite 1000, Tampa, FL 33619; telephone: 813-228-2815.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Panel will be re-convened to develop additional alternatives for the overfishing criteria as required by the Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA). In a previous meeting held June 22-25, 1998, the Panel developed a generalized procedure for selecting proxies for expressing maximum sustainable yield (MSY) and optimum yield (OY) in terms of spawning potential ratio (SPR). The Panel discussed, but did not come to a consensus on, the use of the ratio of natural mortality rate to growth rate coefficients (the M/K ratio) as a scaling factor for setting appropriate levels of SPR. When it reconvenes, the Panel will re-examine the use of M/K ratios as a basis for resiliency of fish to overfishing. In addition, the Panel will examine additional alternatives for MSY proxies for red snapper, king mackerel, and red drum based on juvenile fish recruitment, stock biomass levels, or other relevant indices.

Although other issues not contained in this agenda may come before the Panels for discussion, in accordance

with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during this meeting. Panel action will be restricted to those issues specifically identified in the agenda listed in this notice.

A copy of the agenda can be obtained by contacting the Gulf Council (see ADDRESSES).

Special Accommodations

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Anne Alford at the Council (see ADDRESSES) by August 17, 1998.

Dated: August 5, 1998.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 98-21534 Filed 8-7-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Disclosure Document Program

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The Department of Commerce (DOC), as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on the continuing and proposed information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before October 13, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to the attention of Robert J. Spar, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231, by telephone at (703) 305-9285 or by facsimile transmission to (703) 308-6916.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Disclosure Document Program allows inventors to submit papers that provide evidence of the date of conception of an invention. The disclosure document papers will be